Underwood & Underwood, Publishers
New York, London, Toronto-Canada, Ottawa-Kansas.

Works and Studios
Arlington, N.J. Westwood, N.J.

Gallant storming of a Boer Kopje by the Suffolks at Colesberg, S. A., Dec. 31st—praised by Gen. French.

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This kopje (hill) is one of many scattered about here in the open veldt around the British town of Colesberg. We are in Cape Colony about 15 miles south of the Orange River, which separates this district from that of the Orange Free State. The town of Kimberley, 130 miles N. from here, has been besieged by the Boers for the last eleven weeks (Oct. 15—Dec. 31, 1899) and General French is advancing to the relief of the town. On the way a part of the forces under French have to spend nearly ten weeks fighting around Colesberg.

A kopje like this, strewn with rocks and crowned with irregular boulders and bushes, is a natural fort and the Boers cunningly utilize every such vantage-ground as a hiding place for sharp-shooters. It is next to impossible, at any long distance, to tell a man from a rock here in this unearthly land where everything is of one color, an endless expanse of yellowish-brown. The British are learning the lesson of the landscape, and purposely subduing their own color and glitter in order to be less conspicuous. Light-colored things are intentionally rubbed over with mud to keep them from furnishing a mark for Mauser bullets.

In order to hold Colesberg and the region around it, the surrounding kopjes must be taken and cleared of the enemy — hence this fierce charge. Kopjes exactly like this may have only innocent boulders at the top, silent and harmless as worn-out craters. This one is a live volcano, pouring out a deadly fire on the men who are pushing up to that sinister pile of rocks at the summit.

Ten minutes ago these poor fellows on the ground were as full of energetic vigor as if they were come out for a cricket-match. To-morrow there will be gaps in the roll-call. And, meanwhile, — the sudden burning fever of the wounds, and the raging thirst for water! —

See: —

C. S. Goldmann: *With General French in South Africa.*

A. Conan Doyle: *The Great Boer War,* etc.

Gallant Storming of a Boer Kopje, Colesberg, South Africa.

Courageaux Assaut d'un Pic Boër, Colesberg, Afrique du Sud.

Kühner Sturm auf ein Buren-Kopje, Colesberg, Süd-Afrika.

Valeroso Ataque á un Pico Boero, Colesberg, Sud Africa.

Galant stormning af en Boer Kopje, Colesberg, Sydafrika.

Храбрая аттак- бурскаго лагеря, при Кольсберг Юж. Аф